

POLITICS POLITICS POLITICS PO

A WEEKLY FORUM FOR THE BOSTON AREA

Gay Community News

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25¢

CANDIDATES VIE FOR GAY VOTE

Last week, this paper sent a gay rights questionnaire to the nine candidates for the State Senate from the Second Suffolk Senatorial District. The questionnaire asked the seven Democrats and two Republicans to give their views on gay rights, as well as a number of other issues. The district encompasses East Boston, The North End, Beacon Hill, Back Bay and Cambridge. All candidates were given ample opportunity to respond to the questionnaire. Those who did not answer were repeatedly called. Following are the views of those candidates who did respond, plus brief biographies of those whose positions were not made available to us.

DEMOCRATS

At 39, Mike Amato is the most outspoken liberal in the race. He promises to introduce, vote and work for legislation affecting the gay community. A volunteer in many social change groups fighting invasion of privacy and the monopoly of the communications media, Amato has an unpaid work force of several hundred.

His main interest is human rights and personal freedom. "The most

urgent priority in America today is human rights. The day is long overdue to assure equal rights to women and young people and end all forms of sexual and racial discrimination," Amato said.

He supports legalization of marijuana, abortion on demand, closing of jails in lieu of half-way houses, and expanded mass transportation. He thinks the state should create jobs for the unemployed.

Amato is counting on the votes of the young, the liberal and the disenchanted to bring him victory. The Cambridge resident has the endorsement of the Homophile Union of Boston, State Representative Barney Frank and Gay Way hostess Elaine Noble. He is considered a long shot for the post.

Pascuale Buonopane, 41, is an attorney who calls himself a "state's rights" democrat. He advises that "if elected, I would introduce equal rights legislation" for gays. Defining his philosophy as liberal on some issues, conservative on others, he plans a huge last minute mailing and name recognition gimmick. Explaining that his name means "good bread" in his ancestral Italian, Buonopane plans to pass out 17,200 loaves of bread between now and the election.

"First and foremost," he stated, "I am dollar conscious and dollar oriented. This is because I came up the hard way." Because of this, he would focus on legislation that affects government spending. After two years with the Housing Authority, Buonopane is also interested in environmental control and pollution reduction. He advocates mandatory prison sentences for second offender "crimes against the person." Abortion is a matter to be decided "between the person and her doctor," he states. Buonopane supports changing the classification of marijuana from a drug to alcohol, and believes that parents have a "right to choose the school that their child will attend." He believes that public transportation should be free to all.

A dark horse in the field, the East Boston candidate is counting

on a last minute push for victory.

George DiLorenzo is serving his fifth term as a state representative. An old fashioned pol who clings desperately to a central political course, the East Boston man made a reputation by standing on street corners decrying the rising number of blacks in the area. He is given a fair chance of winning, but is far from favored. He did not return repeated calls from GCN.

William P. Foley is a perennial Boston City Council candidate, who changed his last name from 'Intraversate' after a series of legal problems. He is not considered a serious contender by any of the other candidates or the public at large. Foley has no known platform. He did not respond to our questionnaire, and doesn't even have a phone listed in his name.

Mike LoPresti is attempting to capture the Senate seat once held by his father. Having just received his juris doctorate from Boston University, LoPresti is running a strong, well organized, well financed, name recognition campaign. His posters can be seen all over the Boston-Cambridge area, and his campaign organization is well staffed with volunteers. At 26, he is a practical politician. While promising to support gay rights, he points out that the conservative make-up of his district would make it impossible for him to introduce it. "Being frank and practical at the same time, it would be a political disaster for me to do so. It (gay rights) is not a popular issue," LoPresti said.

The former State Senate aide's interests focus on transportation and consumer affairs. Asserting that mass transit is the answer to both pollution and congestion on the highways, he advocates an expanded, modernized and improved MBTA. The East Boston candidate is opposed to bussing as a "practical" matter, believes abortion should be solely a "patient-doctor matter," and

advocates lessening the penalties for marijuana use.

LoPresti is politically attractive, forceful candidate and appears to be the front runner. He is supported by Mayor White's machine and the ADA.

cont'd on page 2



At this time GCN would like to proudly announce the arrival of a new number. 523-8729 was delivered by an agent of the powers from above (Ma Bell) with the stipulation that we would not abuse the aforementioned instrument. 523-8729, sporting a 13 foot appendage and a long slim torso has settled down to a new gay atmosphere and is flourishing on a steady formula of nickels and dimes.

CYCLES

A number of peculiar bicycle rip-offs have been taking place on the Esplanade.

In one recent case, in mid-afternoon a golf club was inserted into the spokes of a passing bicycle, causing the rider to fall off. This particular attempt failed, in that the cyclist fought off the attackers and fled with his bicycle.

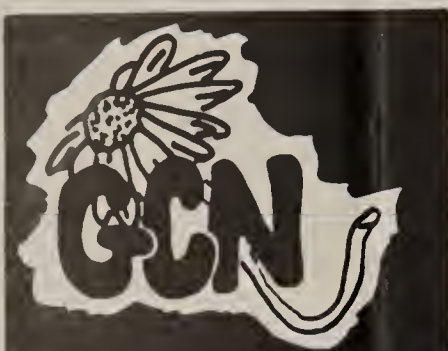
The police have acknowledged the recent substantial increase in incidents of this sort in the area, and advise all bicyclists to be cautious when riding through the Esplanade, especially in the uncrowded areas. They also warn against leaving bicycles parked there.

GAYS GAVE

Over 70 gay brothers and sisters participated in a blood drive to aid the victims of the New Orleans fire.

Held last Saturday at the Charles St. Meetinghouse, the blood drive was a total success. "It went far beyond what we had expected," said blood drive coordinator Penny Perrault.

Ms. Perrault said that the Red Cross Staff did an excellent job in its collection and distribution of the blood. A total of 57 pints of blood were collected. It is hoped that there will be further blood collections to aid members of the gay community.



Gay Community News is published weekly through the sponsorship of the Charles Street Meetinghouse. GCN is dedicated to providing coverage of events and news of interest to the greater Boston gay community, as well as stimulation of event oriented opinion within the community.

News and opinions reflected in "REACT!", the editorial column, represent the majority view of the editorial board. Signed letters and columns reflect the view of the author only. The material in this paper does not necessarily represent the views of the Charles Street Meetinghouse. Comments, criticisms and information are always welcome from our readers.

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DID YOU SEE?

This week's issue (August 1) of the Boston Phoenix has an article on page six by Charlie Lerrigo entitled "Violent Attacks on Gay Men Seen Increasing". The article discusses the Arborum slaying, many other recent incidents, and the reactions of the gay community. GCN has covered most of these items, but the article is valuable in its depth (more than a full page) and also interesting as an example of the fairly recent development of gay consciousness of the more liberal-radical "straight media."

On another front, Rev. Alberts, of Old West Church and Bob & Harry controversy fame, has, since his separation from Old West, joined the staff of the Boston Ledger. Best of Luck!

POLITICS (CONTINUED)

Fillipa Pizzi is the only woman running under the Democratic party banner. A former State Democratic Committeewoman, Ms. Pizzi is running an almost invisible campaign. A fiery, plain speaking woman, she asked rhetorically, "Who is the law or the church to tell you how to lead your life?" She refused further comment. Her statement would seem to contradict earlier anti-gay statements. Our questionnaire was not returned.

Gus Serra has a liberal voting record after two terms in the State House of Representatives. The focus of his campaign seems to be ecology issues. The youthful Serra is running a fairly visible campaign. Known to have spoken out in favor of gay rights, he nevertheless let our questionnaire go unanswered. He is given a pretty good chance at taking the seat.

REPUBLICANS

There are two Republicans in the race, Anne E. R. Witherby and Vincent Manganello. Manganello is a conservative with a history of civic work. He has an unlisted telephone, and could not be reached for comment on the issues. Ms. Witherby has served on the Republican State Committee and worked on improving the Beacon Hill area. While we did manage to reach her, she was on her way to a meeting and never returned our call. Neither candidate responded to the written questionnaire.

The special election to fill former Senator Mario Umana's seat is set for Tuesday, August 14th. If you are not sure if you are eligible or where to vote, call City Hall at 722-4100.



NOTICE

Volunteers are needed to work on Mr. Amato's senatorial campaign. Call HUB at 536-6197.

NOTICE

The Boston Gayline is now on sale at Bars, Bookstores, Baths, cinemas, or by mail from "Gayline" room 500A, 419 Boyl. St. Boston Mass. 02116. 35 cents (plus 25 cents mailing)

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REACT !!!!!!!

With only 2,800 people expected to vote in the Tuesday, August 14th primary to select the Democratic candidate for State Senate and nine candidates in the field, less than 1,000 votes will elect the next Senator from this area.

Rep. Barney Frank's active, sympathetic, legislative support has convinced the staff of GCN that this election is important to the gay community's future advances.

In this issue, we have tried to give you as much information as possible on the candidates' positions. Several are openly pro-gay, some are indecisive, and some are anti-gay. You make the decision, but let US make the next senator sympathetic to our demands.

REACTIONS

To the Editor,

This is not a gripe, just a reaction to a reaction in your 7/26 issue. I frequent the CSMH coffee house and enjoy it - especially now that my 20 years in the bars has led me to A.A.. But Jack L. should be aware that sometimes the glances - and even stares - of the "regulars" don't make me feel like an "Older Gay" - just older. I don't mind - but maybe that's why some of my peers stay away.

Mitch Bosnen

To the Editor,

The biggest block to a gay community center is the diversity among us. We have only one thing in common - our illegality, harassment and persecution - and even this varies from gender to gender, state to state and person to person.

What we need are more concrete efforts to form a united front. The Gay Community News is a model to follow. It combines and continues a number of periodic newsletters and group bulletins, extends their circulation and just by sharing information makes us all more united. The Gay Speakers' Bureau has been another important experiment. They have provided a clearing house for gay groups with a careful formula for dividing money.

We need more such efforts in sharing resources and working together. I would suggest a Gay Community Fund much like the Black United Fund in which all groups share together their needs and resources. Presently our search for contributions and funding is scattered and haphazard. We have funds like that for Gay Pride Week (\$641.95) lying around unutilized while the HCHS faces extinction. We have groups (MCC, DOB, HUB, HCHS) paying rents which would together, go far toward paying off the mortgage on a gay community center. We have eight or nine gay phones that together would make an impressive switchboard. And such groups as MCC, HCHS, & GCC are looking toward raising their own funds toward more permanent housing.

Tooth and claw competition will mean that the men could probably outpull the women (at least in crude numbers) that Christians could overwhelm Jews, that theists could overcome atheists: in the same way heterosexuals have stepped on homosexuals. We cannot ape the straight world and its divisions in our institutions; we must develop a pluralist government in which every gay woman and every gay man can feel THIS IS MY ORGANIZATION. Jill Johnson says, "people organize separately because their needs and interests are not recognized or dealt with in the context of the larger organization."

Charles Shively

Ed Note: Mr. Shively's suggestion of a Gay Community Fund has also just recently been proposed by a number of other individuals in the community. As soon as these people connect, we will try to have something definite to inform our readers about on this exciting new development.



GOOPS

OUR APOLOGY

GCN is sorry for the late delivery of last week's issue. Due to a mix-up in our mailing procedure, the paper was delayed at the post office. We have rectified this problem and hope that this issue has arrived on time. We will do everything we can to ensure that the paper is distributed as quickly as possible in the future.

I'LL STICK TO MINE

John D. Erlichman, resigned Domestic Affairs Counselor to President Nixon, stated in testimony before the Senate Water-gate Committee on Friday that "drinking problems, sexual habits and domestic situations are valid issues in a political campaign." Asserting that newspapers have an unwritten rule against exposing the shady side of a politician's life, Erlichman said that it was up to their political opponents to keep the voters informed. "These are certainly material questions that ought to be raised in a campaign," the former White House aide said.

Under Erlichman's theory, the possible homosexual lifestyle of an aspiring candidate could be exposed as a "valid" campaign issue. This could lead not only to public embarrassment, but, except in four states, could make him or her open to criminal prosecution.

Senator Lowell Weicker (R-Ct), astonished at the witness's statement, asked, "Do you really want to bring the political system of the United States, of our campaigns, down to the level you are talking about? If so," the Senator continued, "you stick to your theory about what's right and what's wrong, and I'll stick to mine."

MEDIA

Gay Way:

Michael Amato, candidate for the State Senate, will be the guest on Gay Way Radio Thursday, August 2nd. The district in which he is running includes much of the Boston-Cambridge Gay Community. Tune in to hear him discuss his platform on WBUR (90.9FM), at 10:00PM. You may also call in during the show with questions and comments.

Lavender Hour:

This month's Lavender Hour program will feature gay music and poetry. Among the artists whose work will be represented are Dave Wagner, Mike Cohen, Linda Lochman and Jan Field. The program may be heard on Sunday, August 5 at 10:00PM, on station WBCN (104.1FM)

THE HOSSENPFEPFER ~column~

by J. Ralf Green

I'm getting a bit tired of going to the porn shows every week and not seeing anything really worthwhile; I find myself going overboard for the slightest glimmer of talent, creativity, or redeeming merit.

GYPSY BALL has none of the above; like the gypsy herself, it's all fraud and fakery. STUD FARM does have slightly redeeming moment, a fairly well done snake dance. Unfortunately the boa was either bored stiff, drugged stiff, or just plain dumb; it is alive, but I've seen other snakes that worked much better with their human companions.

Since this is an entertainment column, I'd better do something other than just movies. Here goes. If you've ever wondered when Science Fiction would get around to gay topics, wait no longer. Robert Silverberg, one of SF's most prolific and best young writers (he's won several Hugo and Nebula awards) has a novel out entitled THE BOOK OF SKULLS, which deals with several

gay characters and situations damn well.

Simply, four college students set off for Arizona to find the Brotherhood of Skulls, and, through their cult, gain immortality. One of them is known to be gay from the start. Rather than spend several paragraphs rehashing the entire story, let me just say that this book is one of the best efforts at a character efforts at gay character study I've come across in years. The story is as much psychological as action; in addition to the physical aspects of the story, Silverberg also gives the reader some excellent character insight; deep probes into the minds of all the principals bring the reader closer to the persons involved than might be thought possible with the plot so far removed from the realm of normality. Silverberg does this better than nearly any other SF author currently at work.

I urge gay SF fans, or just gay readers to pick up THE BOOK OF SKULLS; it's not only good reading, but good thinking.

DOINGS

FLEA MARKET

Boston's Metropolitan Community Church will hold a flea market open to the public on Saturday, August 11, beginning at 11:00AM and lasting until late afternoon. Many unusual items will be on sale. Proceeds will benefit the church.

MCC will also sponsor a day-long "Spiritual Renewal Day" on Sunday, August 12. The activities will include an afternoon hymn singing, followed by various religious workshops. Following a fellowship supper, an evening worship service will be held. The Rev. Roy Birchard, MCC, New York City, will be the guest preacher. New people are always welcome to attend. Definite times will be announced as they are known.

KARATE ANYONE?

On Monday, July 30th, the second meeting of the Gay Defense Committee was held at the Charles St. Meetinghouse. About 40 sisters and brothers here attended and have now established a self-defense course to be offered each Monday night at CSMH (7:30PM). The classes, instructed by Pinky and Robert, will consist of both boxing and karate techniques. All participants are asked to wear loose clothing and comfortable shoes. The course will be free, but there is the possibility of there being a small (.50-1.00) donation to cover the cost of any equipment that may be needed.

NEW ORLEANS

What really happened at the New Orleans holocaust? Talk to someone who was there on Thursday, August 9th at 7:30PM. HUB will sponsor the Rev. J. E. Paul Breton, Northeast District Director of MCC, as guest speaker at their meeting to be held at St. John's Church Hall, 33 Bowdoin St., Boston.

Rev. Breton was in New Orleans before, during and after the tragic fire and was involved in the ensuing developments.

GAY MEN'S RAP

The Gay Men's Rap that was meeting Monday nights in the Charles Street Meetinghouse has been discontinued due to lack of attendance.

Anyone interested in restarting such rap sessions may contact GCN at our new number, 523-8729.



STABBING

Another gay brother was attacked and stabbed in the Fenway late July 25th. A passerby caught sight of the wounded man staggering out of the reeds, toward the street. The victim was then rushed to Boston City Hospital. Other facts, including the victim's condition, are unknown as of this writing.

FOCUS ON

This week we will feature the GOOD GAY POETS. The group was initially started by Aaron Shurin in the early spring of 1972, allowing four or five area poets to meet and read their poetry in a workshop setting. During the time the group was together they published a broadside and a little pamphlet of poetry.

Aaron's move to P-Town and the opening of the Charles St. Meetinghouse had a great deal to do with the transition and direction of the Good Gay Poets. Originally an established group of poets, the Good Gay Poets is now more a slogan than an actual group, according to Charlie Shively its co-ordinator. Its current format which debuted on Saturday May 26, is an open forum for gay poets

to have regular Saturday night readings. There is also talk about getting it together again in the fall as an established group, as well as continuing to have Saturday night readings at the Meetinghouse.

Poets are needed for the last two weeks in September. Anyone interested in reading should contact David Eberly at the Meetinghouse Saturday at 8:00PM or call Charlie Shively in September at 536-9826.

Reading this Saturday at 8:00 PM will be Tony Roberts and Saturday August 11th will be Ellen B. Davis.

"Since the time of Sappho only poets have been the true friends of Gay Liberation. We have been betrayed by priests, statesmen and psychiatrists; only poetry has been our steadfast friend."

CLASSIFIED

Gay male would like to live communally with other Gay people (men & women) in Box/Camb/Som area - either in an existing commune or start one. Call Joe 547-3630.

CLASSIFIED

Dearest Richard, Thank-you for the most "BREATHLESS BIRTHDAY" ever. I love you. Jae Andrew.

CALENDAR AUG. 2-15

NOTE: *INDICATES THAT MORE INFO ON THIS EVENT IS ELSEWHERE IN ISSUE

THU	7:30PM Effemist Men's Rap at Project Place *9:00PM Gay Way Radio, WBUR (90.9FM) Nite Project Place Gay Crisis Line 267-9150.	2	THU	7:30PM Effemist Men's Rap at Project Place *7:30PM HUB "New Orleans Fire" 33 Bowdoin St. 9:00PM Gay Way Radio, WBUR (90.9FM) Nite Project Place Gay Crisis Line 267-9150	9
FRI	9:00PM GCC Gay Dance, Upstairs CSMH, \$1.50 Don.	3	FRI	9:00PM GCC Gay Dance, Upstairs, CSMH, \$1.50 don.	10
SAT	*8:00PM Good Gay Poets, Tony Roberts, CSMH	4	SAT	*11AM - 8PM MCC Flea Market, Old West Church *8:00PM Good Gay Poets, Ellen B. Davis, CSMH	11
SUN	1:00PM DOB Softball, Magazine Beach, Camb. 1:00PM Dignity Service (see Quick Gay Guide) 5:30PM Interfaith Mass, Beacon St. & Mass. Ave. 6,7,8:15PM MCC Mtg., Serv., Filshp. Hr., Old West 7:00PM Gay Media Watch, CSMH *10:00PM Lavender Hour, WBCN (104.1FM)	5	SUN	1:00PM DOB Softball, Magazine Beach, Camb. 5:30PM Interfaith Mass, Beacon St. & Mass. Ave. *All Day MCC Spiritual Renewal Day, Old West Church 7:00PM Gay Media Watch, CSMH 8:00PM GCC Open Mtg., CSMH	12
MON	*7:30PM Gay Defense Comm., CSMH 7:30PM DOB Bus. Mtg., 419 Boylston, Rm. 323	6	MON	*7:30PM Gay Defense Comm., CSMH 8:00PM MCC Women's Ministry Rap Group, call 266-7491	13
TUE	7:30PM HUB Rap, 419 Boyl., Rm. 509 7:30PM MCC Bible Study, call 266-7491 for info. 7:30PM DOB Rap, 419 Boyl., Rm. 323 8:00PM Gay Rollerskating, Ballarou, Medford	7	TUE	*All Day Primary Election 7:30PM HUB Rap, 419 Boyl., Rm. 509 7:30PM DOB Rap, 419 Boyl., Rm. 323 7:30PM MCC Bible Study Group, 266-7491 for info. 8:00PM Gay Rollerskating, Ballarou, Medford	14
WED	7:00PM GCN Staff Mtg., CSMH 7:30PM MCC Prayer Mtg., 419 Boyl., Rm. 400	8	WED	7:00PM GCN Staff Mtg., CSMH 7:30PM MCC Prayer Mtg., 419 Boyl., Rm. 400	15

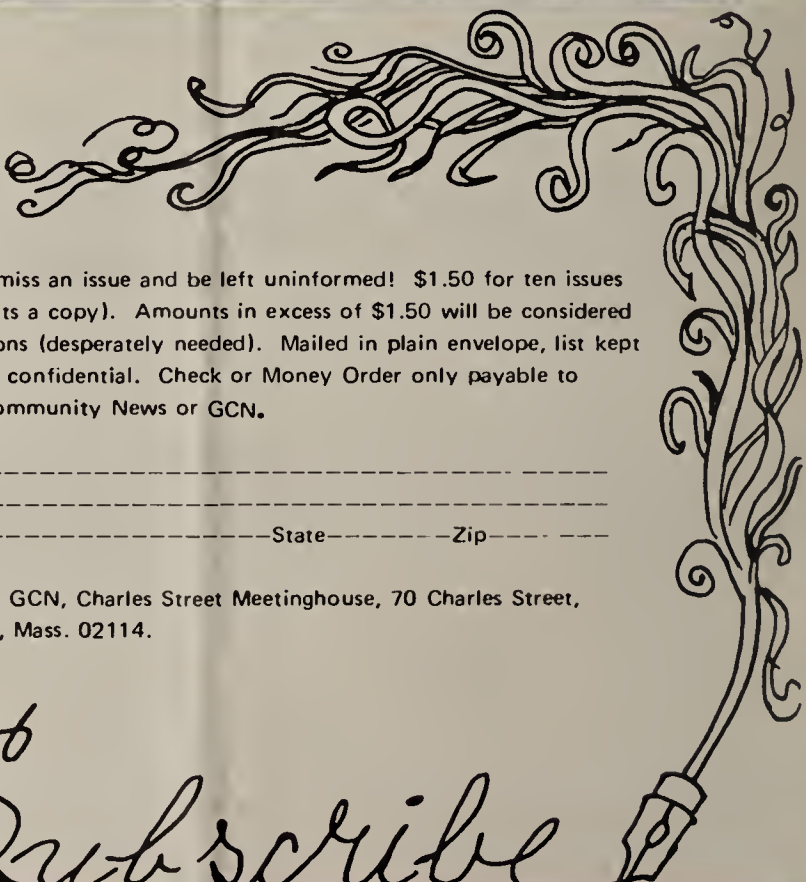
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	Dignity/Boston, c/o 1105 Boylston St., Boston, Ma. 02215		Homophile Union of Boston	536-6197
	Fag Rag	536-9826	Lavender Hour (WBCN-FM)	261-8526
	Gay Community Center	491-5669	(Contact Andy Kopkind or Littlejohn)	
		or 288-8765	Lesbian Liberation . . (c/o the Women's Center) . .	354-8807
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			Fr. Paul Shanley	267-0764